



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 6169.0001-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)

Lawrence J. SIFEL et al.)

Application No.: 09/722,359)

Filed: November 28, 2000)

For: ORGANIC SHELL BLANK AND)
METHOD FOR MAKING SAME)

Group Art Unit: 1734 ✓

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents were previously submitted in prior applications, Application No. 08/612,733, filing date December 21, 1995, and Application No. 09/008,780, filing date January 20, 1998, upon which applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. Applicants respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. English translations of the non-English documents were previously submitted.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 21, 2001

By: Christopher P. Foley
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